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REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN,

For 1864.

The Librarian begs leave, most respectfully, to report that during the past year the following additions have been made to the Library, viz :

Journals, 763 ; works on Anatomy and Physiology, 20 ; Antiquities, 3 ; Bibliography, 4 ; Botany, 39 ; Chemistry, 1 ; Conchology, 29 ; Entomology, 14 ; Geology, 69 ; General Natural History, 107 ; Helminthology, 4 ; Herpetology, 2 ; Ichthyology, 4 ; Languages, 4 ; Mathematics, 1 ; Mammalogy, 2 ; Medicine, 69 ; Ornithology, 24 ; Physical Science, 17 ; Politics, 1 ; Religion, 4 ; Useful Arts, 1 ; Voyages and Travels, 19. Total 1201.

Of these were volumes, 265 ; tracts and parts of periodicals, 936, divided as follows : Folios, 21 ; quartos, 256 ; octavos, 902 ; duodecimos, 22.

These have been received from the following sources, viz : Societies, 533 ; Editors, 149 ; Authors, 82 ; Smithsonian Institution, 10 ; University of Toronto, 1 ; Navy Department, 1 ; Treasury Department, 1 ; Library Fund, 137 ; Maclure Fund, 12 ; Minister of Public Works in France, 3 ; Dr. T. B. Wilson, 261 ; Mrs. Dr. Short, 2 ; Executors of Dr. Short, 4 ; J. C. G. Kennedy, 1 ; Charles H. Hart, 3 ; Select Council of Philadelphia, 1. Total 1201.

J. D. SERGEANT,
Librarian.

December 27, 1864.

REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

For 1864.

The Curators report the Museum of the Academy to be in its usual good order and state of preservation. Some of the departments are still but partially arranged, and, under existing circumstances, the Curators see no way of completing the arrangement unless they are authorized by the Academy to employ aid for the purpose. Mr. Tryon has undertaken the arrangement of the conchological cabinet, and Mr. Durand has expended much labor in the arrangement of the recent rich additions to the herbarium.

Notwithstanding the extensive additions made in late years to the building of the Academy, the Curators feel the necessity of more space to accommodate the constantly increasing collections. Nearly all the departments are crowded, some of them to such an extent that it has become difficult to introduce a few additional specimens. It is to be hoped that the Academy will direct especial attention to the necessity of making future and ample provision to accommodate, display, and render convenient to access, the incessantly increasing museum and library.

During the year the Academy has been greatly enriched by a donation consisting of the magnificent Herbarium of the late Prof. Charles W. Short, of Louisville, Kentucky, presented by the family on the recommendation of Prof. Asa Gray, of Cambridge. A special notice of this collection will be found in the Report of the Botanical Committee appended to the present one.

Another rich addition, a legacy of our late fellow member, Samuel Ashmead, formerly one of the most efficient Curators of this Institution, consists of a first selection from a large and valuable private collection of about 2000 minerals, together with a beautiful collection of marine algæ, made with considerable labor and expense during the later years of Mr. Ashmead's life.

Our stores have further been increased, through the American Philosophical Society, by the deposit of the natural history collection of that time-honored Institution.

By resolution of the Academy, a small collection of ancient works of art have been deposited in the museum of the American Philosophical Society.

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The following list exhibits the contributions to the museum of the Academy during the year in the various departments of natural history :

Mammals.—Of these five species, from Arctic America, were presented by Robert Kennicott, and one species by John Krider.

Birds.—Dr. T. B. Wilson and Joseph Jeanes presented 248 specimens, 144 species, from the West African collection of Duchailu, and from Jalapa, Mexico, of the collection of D'Oca. The Smithsonian Institution presented 31 specimens, 25 species, from the collection of the U. S. Exploring Expedition of the Vincennes and Peacock, 100 specimens from Siam and 9 specimens from other localities. George N. Lawrence presented 51 specimens, 34 species, from Guatemala, New Grenada and Panama. Robert Kennicott presented 22 species from Arctic America. Of others, 36 specimens and 1 nest were presented by T. B. Wilson, J. Krider, C. J. and W. S. Wood, S. Ashmead, R. Frazer, J. Xantus, T. Wyld and D. Gilbert.

Reptiles and Fishes.—A small collection of reptiles from Corisco, W. A., was presented by Rev. R. H. Nassau, and 7 specimens were presented by F. R. Bingham, D. Gilbert and E. Draper. Of fishes 7 specimens were presented by T. Norris, C. A. Kingsbury and C. L. Pascal.

Mollusks.—The Smithsonian Institution presented 71 species of marine mollusca, and 294 species of shells, mostly American, mainly collected and labeled by W. Stimpson. George W. Tryon, Jr., presented 163 species of shells, mostly new to the museum of the Academy. Dr. Gundlach presented 20 species of Cuban shells. Of others, 16 species were presented by A. A. Gould, I. Lea, J. C. Fisher and J. H. Thomson. A small collection from the Florida Reef was presented by George Davidson. The American Philosophical Society deposited a small collection of shells.

Articulates.—The Smithsonian Institution presented 62 species of crustaceans, mostly from the collection of Dr. William Stimpson, of the North Pacific Exploring Expedition. Other crustaceans, insects and myriapods were presented by George Davidson, Rev. R. H. Nassau, F. R. Bingham, Dr. J. C. Fisher and H. L. Gaw.

Echinoderms, &c.—The Smithsonian Institution presented 16 species of echinoderms from the collection of W. Stimpson, of the North Pacific Exploring Expedition. Small collections of marine animals were presented by Rev. R. H. Nassau, Dr. J. C. Morris, S. Powell and George Merritt. A small collection of echinoderms, corals and sponges were deposited by the American Philosophical Society.

Fossils.—E. D. Cope presented 14 specimens of vertebrate liassic fossils from England. Small collections and specimens were presented by Gen. John F. Hartrauft, Lieut. A. W. Guernsey, Jacob M. Kunkel, Dr. J. Leidy, F. Peale, Col. W. D. Lewis, Jr., J. F. Frazer, R. E. Knight, J. C. Trautwine, Mr. Painter and Geo. W. Ward. The American Philosophical Society deposited a collection of green-sand fossils from New Jersey and Delaware, a collection of European tertiary fossils, small collections from various formations and localities, and a number of casts in plaster of the vertebrate fossils of the vicinity of Paris.

Minerals.—About 500 specimens of minerals were received as a legacy from the late Samuel Ashmead, of which about 400 have been labelled and intercalated with the mineralogical cabinet of the Academy. The mineralogical collection, deposited by the American Philosophical Society, contains many rare and valuable specimens, among which are rich native silvers, sulphurets of silver, tin, opal, &c., from Mexico. From this collection upwards of 450 specimens have been labelled and intercalated with the cabinet of the Academy. Altogether there have been added to the latter during the past year, about 1000 labelled specimens. Mr. Lea presented 27 specimens of minerals from Chester and Lancaster Co., Pa., and from New York. The Smithsonian Institution presented 27 specimens of rocks. Joseph Wharton presented 18

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minerals from Lancaster Co., and 8 specimens were presented by J. D. Sergeant, W. S. Vaux and J. C. Trautwine. There were also obtained 12 valuable minerals in exchange.

Botany.—The magnificent herbarium of the late Professor Short, of Louisville, Ken., presented by his family, consists of almost 300 folio volumes, containing about 6000 species of American plants, and between 3000 and 4000 species of European plants, besides a number of unopened packages of tropical American plants. The collection of marine algæ of the late Samuel Ashmead, a legacy to the Academy, is contained in 12 thick quarto volumes. Besides these there are numerous microscopic specimens mounted in the usual manner on glass slides. A collection of marine and fresh water algæ, comprising about 700 species, a contribution by Leo Lesquereux to the Central Sanitary Fair, has been purchased by the Curators, according to a resolution of the Academy, of Dec. 6, 1864. Two large fungi were presented by A. Cunningham and Violetta W. Miller.

Miscellaneous.—An antique stone hammer from the copper mines of Lake Superior was presented by B. A. Hoopes; an Apache Indian skull from Texas by Dr. E. H. Abadie; 6 worked flints from Abbeville, France, by F. Peale; and a plaster cast of the Neanderthal skull by E. D. Cope.

Respectfully submitted by

JOSEPH LEIDY,
Chairman of the Curators.

REPORT OF THE BOTANICAL COMMITTEE, For 1864.

To the Curators of the Academy of Natural Sciences:

Gentlemen:—Since my last report, dated December 17th, 1857, our Botanical Department has been considerably enriched.

First, by a full set of specimens from the collections made on the Colorado Mountains by Dr. C. C. Parry, Messrs. Elihu Hall, Harbour and Howard.

Secondly, by the magnificent herbarium of the late Prof. Charles Wm. Short, of Louisville, presented to our Academy by his family, on the liberal recommendation of Prof. Asa Gray.

Thirdly, by the handsome collection of Marine Algæ, bequeathed to this institution by our late fellow-member, Mr. Samuel Ashmead.

Fourthly, by another most valuable collection of Algæ, once the property of Mr. Leo Lesquereux, of Columbus, Ohio, presented by him, as his contribution, to the Philadelphia Sanitary Commission, and just purchased by the Curators.

To the above I will add the Texas collections of Dr. Lincecum and Mr. Buckley; the herbarium of Dr. G. Watson, and several hundred plants from Wisconsin and Iowa received from Mr. T. J. Hale, in exchange.

The greatest part of the Colorado specimens were either new to our North American herbarium, or duplicates (handsomer and more complete) of those collected by Mr. Nuttall, in his rapid travels over the Rocky Mountains.

The Short Herbarium is, indeed, the greatest acquisition ever made by our Botanical Department, and will constitute two distinct large herbaria: one of tropical, the other of extra tropical plants. The latter, already arranged by Prof. Short himself, on the same Linnæo-natural plan as our general herbarium, contains, as far as I can judge, about 4000 European and between 6 and 7000 North American species. Among the latter are many new plants to our Botanical Department, derived principally from the last collections of Mr. Charles Wright in New Mexico, Sonora and Cohahuila; from the Texano-Mexican herbarium of Berlandier; from the Collection of Ervendberg in the province of Huasteca, and other Mexican plants from the collection of Drs. Gregg and Coulter, besides a small number from the North American British provinces.

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